

# Norwich Bulletin and Courier.

113 YEARS OLD.

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Norwich, Tuesday, April 6, 1909.

## UNSLIGHTLY LOTS.

Among the leper spots of every city are the unsightly lots which are usually fronted by a line of hill boards and strewn with old tin cans, fermenting food and animal matter, polluting the atmosphere for blocks around. There are only a few such spots in Norwich, but these few ought to be cleaned and put in a healthful condition. These spots with a merry widow front and a death dealing behind are a disgrace to any city. The New Haven Journal-Courier says:

"Last year's cleanup week saw the doing away with any number of unsightly lots about the city. Few if any of these lots have since then degenerated back to their former condition. This week's cleanup should see the abolishment of those few lots which still remain. All that is needed is a little co-operation among the public spirited citizens. The chief of police has pleased all by the heavy manner in which he has given his support to the movement for a cleaner city by instructing his men to be especially on the alert this week in that regard."

This is what is needed—public interest, individual resolution, cordial co-operation. No city needs fish canners or dog holes or disease breeders. Every city should see that health laws are enforced and pure atmosphere is maintained.

## TAFT FOR CONSOLIDATION.

President Taft stands for every good thing. News comes from Washington that he is in favor of the consolidation of the federal health departments and would place them under one head to increase their efficiency and to make ends meet. This is a policy which must commend itself to the people, for the change would probably establish better conditions in regard to the enforcement of the pure food laws than has been revealed by the practical application of orders from the bureau of chemistry of the agricultural department by a decision of a board of experts upon a question that had been practically settled by the satisfaction of consumers before the board was called into being.

This is a most consistent proposition, and it bears on its face the suggestion of more pleasing and more effective service.

## BROAD-MINDEDNESS.

Admiral Schley has been in obscurity for the last few years. This has been due to the strained relations between him and the Roosevelt administration. Upon the death of Admiral Cervera, of Spain, he now comes forward with a eulogy of the man he so signally defeated, a eulogy which does him credit as well as Cervera. "Cervera, under the only course left to him," he says, "acted as wisely as any other could have done under the circumstances. It was a case of measuring his strength with that of the enemy and he lost, losing all save his honor." That is true broad-mindedness.—New Haven Journal-Courier.

Admiral Schley was always broad-minded. He saw at that time there was glory enough in victory for every man of the navy, even to the last abject to have his share. There was no need of a quarrel and he never asked too much of his superior officer. Schley did his duty at Santiago and history will not place him second to any man there. He knew how to appreciate success and how to justly measure his enemy.

## THE OLD BALANCE.

There was never a tariff any more successful or upon the whole satisfactory as a revenue producer than the Dingley tariff up to the time that national folly and extravagance made it inadequate to meet the public requirements. The nation is building a great canal and has great island expenses in consequence of the Spanish war, and it is probable that within a little curtailment of expenses and a few corrections of the tariff the old and satisfactory financial balance might have been restored. It is a mistake to make a new tariff to meet extraordinary expenses. It is better to say for a truth that the senate and the house should take counsel of the retired secretary of commerce and labor, the present secretary of the treasury, or some other man that has the training of running a large business without the help of an advisory council of 500. They would pick up a few points. It doesn't seem necessary to tax the people to death to meet a temporary exigency. We may drive enterprises to success, but not by driving the people to distraction on account of excessive taxes.

## BEN. TILLMAN'S STEAL.

The naval appropriations as a source of graft are so well known in character and held in such personal regard by politicians that it is not surprising for newspaper editors to hear that the senators or congressmen are not only aware of the steal but are openly demanding their share of it.

The Bulletin does not hold Senator Tillman in high esteem, but occasionally he delivers himself in a way somewhat to his credit if to the nation's alarm. While the naval budget was under consideration recently, he is reported to have said:

"This bill is loaded down with expansion in every navy yard. I am going to try to get a little for Port Royal, because if you are going to steal I want my share."

Congressman Alley was charged with insulting his colleagues when he did not say anything approving this against his associates. What the government needs to do is to return to the old-fashioned method of doing the business of the government upon strictly business principles.

A Dakota girl who drew a choice section of government land gives notice that she has all she can do to manage the farm, and that husbands need not apply.

President Taft has shown since he came to the presidency that if he is a Unitarian he can attend church with a punctuality that puts others to shame.

## CONGRESSIONAL FREAKS.

The freak bill was once a legislative curiosity and it is only recently that it has become a thing of note in congress. It is not improbable that it will stick for some time, now that it has forced itself into the legislative halls of the nation.

Representative Sheppard of Texas, though not entirely new to Washington, is yet in the freshman class. He leaped out of a dense obscurity the other day by introducing forty-eight bills in a lump, among them one to alter the preamble of the constitution, another to erect a monument to George Washington's mother, and a third to call a national prohibition congress, who nearly caused his fellow-congressmen to faint away by proposing the reduction of salaries from \$7,500 to \$5,000.

Since the appearance of these measures it is suggested that a bill naming universal alms, waste baskets, shoes and umbrellas or one making the use of chewing gum in the District of Columbia a misdemeanor, ought to appeal to some new comer in congress. Anything to draw attention to one's self whether it is wise or unwise is a growing habit.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Eggs are getting too cheap for persons who like to feed upon fine food, to eat.

There are lots of families whose motto it is that "it is cheaper to move than to clean house."

Monday was a day on which one expects to hear ringing out on the spring air: "Play Ball!"

A \$10,000 French bulldog did not know that corks were unhealthy. He died because not well informed.

Two Cincinnati councilmen have been arrested as gamblers. The game of politics was not too much for them.

The epicures of the city of Madrid eat a million of song birds every year. That is the way they have their larks.

If the Connecticut legislature wants to make one creditable record it can do so by adjourning before Memorial day.

Pious citizens watching the board in a bucket shop do not realize what a caricature they are capable of creating.

Happy thought for today: A live wire calls for neither heretic nor patriot but experience and rubber gloves.

The baseball leagues are playing exhibition games just to whet the appetite of the fans for the real thing later on.

City expansion in the twentieth century is going to be more a matter of miles than sky-scraping blocks of buildings.

A marriageable woman likes a letter with a postscript best, because it usually contains what he came near forgetting.

Everybody is so earnestly in the pursuit of the dollar that the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness is now listed as a forgotten dream.

The man who says he can drink or let it alone, often convinces his acquaintances that he does not always let it alone when he should.

Milwaukee has a home-coming procession.

## THE BULLETIN'S DAILY STORY

### MAPLE SYRUP.

"I was reading this morning," said Mrs. Schoonerby to her husband, "that March is the usual time for farmers to go out among the syrup trees to make maple syrup."

"That so?" Schoonerby granted.

"Yes, it was so interesting. I could not learn from the article just what kind of tree they make the maple syrup out of. You don't happen to know, do you, dear?"

"Hemlock," said Schoonerby, without looking up from his paper.

"Oh, thank you!" cried his delighted wife. "I did so want to know, and I thought it was so stupid of the paper not to mention the kind of tree. But the article was so interestingly interesting. It said that when the frost comes out of the tree at night and ascends the trunk the stirring life in nature causes the sap to flow freely all around. It was such a vivid description. It went on to say that the farmer built a fire and put a large iron pot on to boil in, with a cherry blaze under it. Then he went in search of a sapling tree to get his sap."

"Not still boiling?" asked Schoonerby.

"Of course, dear. The idea was, I suppose, to have it nice and warm by the time the sap arrived. Then the next thing was to make a notch with an ax and then, I think, get a sap-spoon—yes, that was the word, sap-spoon—and drives it into the sapling. Then the farmer gets a trough that he makes out of wood and sets the trough against the sapling under the notch he made for the sap."

"Hold on, will you, till I catch up!" said Schoonerby.

"But, my dear, doesn't it sound interesting?"

"What?"

"Why? The syrup-making process I

have been explaining to you. Wouldn't you like to go down east this spring and watch them 'sugaring off,' as they so quaintly call their work?"

"If the work is half as interesting or quaint as your description of it, I'd like to see them at the game," said Schoonerby. "But you don't have to go down east to see them make syrup. They make maple syrup right here at your door, or at least they used to before the pure food law got strong. And they didn't go outside their home yard for material, either. Rubber boots were a great help to the manufacturers of maple syrup. They used the rubber to give the maple flavor which is so much sought after."

"But what did they make the syrup out of then?" asked Mrs. Schoonerby, with a puzzled look. "There are no hemlock trees in Chicago, are there?"

"Don't need trees of any sort," answered Schoonerby, shortly. "Trees are a nuisance—take up too much room. There's sweetness in everything, except bagpipe music, and the syrupmakers just went out and garnered everything that was lying around loose—burdock leaves from vacant lots, twigs from willow and cottonwood trees, old horse collars—anything that would boil up tender and nice and render its sweetness to the manufacturer of pure maple syrup."

"They have quit making that kind of syrup now, owing to the government's compelling them to put the real name of the contents on cans and packages. Nobody would be likely to purchase a can labelled, 'Syrup of Burdock,' for instance."

"Anyway, I think maple syrup made out of sap ought to be ever so much nicer," said Mrs. Schoonerby.

"It will be after people cultivate a taste for it," said Schoonerby.—Chicago News.

granpma committee that looks after the back yard. The nasty backyard marks the slum-city.

The fact that society women of great wealth commit suicide shows that society is no heavenly as many women imagine.

Mr. Harriman weighs less than 140 pounds by the steel yards, but as a railroad manipulator he is one of the heaviest weights in the country.

The youth who starts out in life to be a sport never gets to be a governor, or the keeper of a penitentiary, although he often gets into one.

If a judge should sentence a woman to wear one of these spring hats to church, what a shame it would be; but no judge has the courage to do it.

In future, in Nebraska, when the sun goes down the saloon shuts up. This will teach the thirsty to get in their supply while the sun shines.

Many a man of assumed influence goes to Washington to get the scalp of another, but comes back feeling thankful that he preserved his own.

Anything that can silence a man, woman is apt to cling to with favor, and that must be one of the fascinations of the great hats now coming on.

Taft at Norwich.

President Taft's acceptance of an invitation to take a hand in the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of Norwich will add fame, distinction and charm to the festival. He is scheduled to be there on July 5, and there'll be something doing every minute in the old town on that day.

The fact that the chief magistrate

of the nation will attend the celebration means that a lot of other eminent citizens will also be there. A large band-wagon will be needed. Every incentive to make the event a success is supplied, and it is an easy and safe guess to say that the celebration will be worthy of the town and of the occasion.

During the two centuries and a half in which Norwich has been on the map it has been making creditable history. Picturesquely located on the Thames river, Norwich has many natural attractions. Rome is a city of seven hills, but Norwich is more Roman than Rome ever thought of being. Norwich has kept peering away. It hasn't got excited, or adopted the arts of yellowness, or "bust its gallbladder" in trying to beat all creation in the game of rapid expansion. During the past century the population of the town has moved up from about 3,500 to about 26,000. No speed madness is indicated by these figures, but the steady pace that wins the race is suggested by them.

In a famous message which Mayor Thayer transmitted to the common council in 1901 he argued that Norwich was headed toward certain decay and that the bulk of the prosperity and enterprise of the town would be found in Yantic cemetery. Doubtless the message was good for reproof and for instruction in the righteousness of haste, but the mayor indulged in poetic license to emphasize the point. While Norwich appreciates the glories of its past, it doesn't go through its riding backwards or wearing its headlight on behind. It is steadily forging ahead, gradually expanding and surely playing a growing part in the world of affairs. This summer's celebration with President Taft and other distinguished Americans looking on will excite a stimulating influence on the fine old town.—Hartford Times.

Teacher—Now, Willie, how many months has 23 days? Willie—All of them, and some have three days over.—Boston Transcript.

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